

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Children's System of Care

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Richard S. Knecht, M.S., Director, Children's System of Care

DATE: December 14, 2010

SUBJECT: Cooperative Agreement with Placer County Office of Education to Provide Mandated Mental Health Services for Severely Emotionally Disturbed Children

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a cooperative agreement with Placer County Office of Education (PCOE) from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 to jointly meet the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and State mental health mandates, with PCOE to reimburse Placer County for providing mandated mental health services in the amount not to exceed \$3,672,261, and Placer County to reimburse PCOE for school-based rehabilitation programs in an amount not to exceed \$422,907, including \$412,907 in Federal and State funding and \$10,000 in County General Funds. These revenues and expenditures are included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Final Budget. Consistent with the FY 2010-11 Final Budget, this amount represents a \$676,357 reduction (15 percent) from last year's agreement due to reduced utilization.

BACKGROUND:

The County has historically been mandated by State law under AB 3632 to provide needed mental health services to special education students to allow for appropriate access to public education. Continuing its sixth year, this uniquely successful cooperative agreement between Children's System of Care (CSOC), 15 local school districts and PCOE successfully meets the AB 3632 mandate in Placer County by delivering timely and effective services to 475 youth referred by their school districts.

Under this agreement, CSOC has been able to blend \$3.7 million in education funding with \$1 million in Federal and State mental health funding to deliver mandated children's services. This partnership effectively helps prevent out-of-home care and more expensive non-public school services by assuring timely and effective local service availability at three PCOE-administered schools and district locations around the County.

The FY 2010-11 State Budget eliminates the direct State funding to meet the AB 3632 program mandate. This has triggered multiple lawsuits across the State about how to structure the program and fiscal responsibilities and whether the mandate still applies to counties. This MOU serves to maintain the historical model of responsibilities for the FY 2010-11 fiscal year. PCOE and school district partners have identified alternate funding sources in order to assure that this service continues for the term of the agreement. This approach is fully supported by System Management Advocacy and Resource Team policy board members, which include the Chief Probation Officer, Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, and the County Superintendent of Schools.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Under this agreement, Placer County will receive up to \$3,672,261 for providing mandated mental health services. Placer County will provide up to \$412,907 in Federal and State funding to PCOE for school-based rehabilitation programs, and \$10,000 in County General Funds for suicide intervention training provided by PCOE. These revenues and expenditures are included in the Department's FY 2010-11 Final Budget.

This contract is on file with the Clerk of the Board for your review.

269

